Central teams to provide financial assistance to meet the natural calamity in the state;

(b) if so, how much assistance various drought relief committees have sought from the Centre; and

(c) what assistance has been provided by the Central Government to Punjab to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Based on the report of the Central Team and recommendations of the High Level Committee on Relief a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 29.35 crores has been approved for drought relief.

Complaints from producers

2108. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many feature film and T.V. serial producers have complained about injustice done to them by the Doordarshan;

(b) if so, how many complaints have been received by the Doordarshan during last one year; and

(c) who is the final authority in the Doordarshan to do justice to the complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) No complaint duly substantiated by facts has been received from the producers of feature films and T.V. serials. However, representations are occasionally received seeking review of the decisions regarding selection of TV serials and feature films. A Review Committee has been set up to look into all such appeals received against rejection of proposals for serials. Similarly, the Feature Film Selection Committee at Doordarshan has been re-constituted by including eminent non-official members in the Committee to ensure utmost objectivity in selection of film for telecast.

(c) Director General is the final authority in Doordarshan to take a decision on such complaints.

Appointment of M/s. Capital Contract Pvt. Ltd. as public relations consultant by NDDB

2109. SHRI RAM AWADESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government Departments and other public sector units/Boards are permitted to hire private agencies for release of their Press reports and other articles; if so, what are the details of any orders on the subject; and

(b) whether Government are aware that the NDDB have employed M/s. Capital Contract Private Limited, Bombay as public relations consultant; if so, what are the details thereof and sums paid for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Instructions were issued in February, 1979, which provided that autonomous bodies of the Government and public undertakings should utilise the services of only those advertising agencies which were accredited and borne on the panel of Directorate of Advertising & Visual Publicity. Later, however, in December, 1985 instructions were issued dispensing with the practice of utilising the services of accredited agencies only.

(b) The National Dairy Development Board reported that its Executive Committee at its meeting held in April, 1987 decided to appoint M/s. Capital Contract Private Limited, Bombay, as public relations consultant for a period of one year on a retainership basis at Rs. 4,000/- per month and their travel expenses for N.D.D.B.'s work.

News about the death of Kishore Kumar on Calcutta Doordarshan

2110. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Calcutta Doordarshan did not announce the news about the death of famous singer Kishore Kumar in their Bengali News on the day of its occurrence;

(b) whether it is also a fact that unlike the Delhi Doordarshan, no film featuring Kishore Kumar was shown on the following Sunday by the Calcutta Doordarshan;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action Government have taken or propose to take in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The news of the death of Shri Kishore Kumar was not received by Doordarshan Kendra, Calcutta due to some fault in the teleprinter line. Complete news of cremation and last rites was, however, telecast on the next day i.e. the 14th Oct, 1987. An obituary programme on Kishore Kumar was also telecast on 20th October, 1987. Various songs sung by Kishore Kumar and a number of family-photographs were included in this programme.

(b) to (d) The film 'Chalti Ka Nam Gadi' was telecast on the National Net work on 18-10-87. However, a Bengali film featuring Kishore Kumar could not be telecast from Doordarshan Kendra, Calcutta as the Eastern India Motion Picture Association refused to give any such film despite request by Calcutta Doordarshan.

Demolition of houses in village Akrola, Delhi

2111. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Municipal Corporation and the Delhi Development Authority have launched an operation in Akrola village to demolish unauthorised structures spread over 40 hectares;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these structures were in existence since 1970;

(c) whether it is also a fact that they had been given water and power connection by the Corporation and were paying house tax; and

(d) if so, whether proper notices were given to them before ordering demolition and, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Missing of Fishermen

2112. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per existing practice if only four fishermen are found missing in the fishing operation in sea, Government initiate salvage operation by aerial search;